



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

9 FEBRUARY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Davis – COVID-19 Variant Discovered in UK Confirmed in Davis

(U) The first known case of an apparently more contagious COVID-19 variant that's been seen in the United Kingdom has been confirmed in Yolo County, health officials said Monday. The B.1.1.7 variant was confirmed by Healthy Davis Together and the UC Davis Genome Center. The person who tested positive for the variant may have contracted it through travel outside the community, the groups said. The B.1.1.7 variant has already been found in Southern California and the Bay Area. The bulk of the confirmed cases have been in the San Diego area, Governor Newsom said at a Monday news conference from Petco Park, home of the San Diego Padres and a COVID-19 vaccination site.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [KCRA News](#)

(U) Menlo Park – Facebook Says it Plans to Remove Posts with False Vaccine Claims

(U) Facebook said on Monday that it plans to remove posts with erroneous claims about vaccines from across its platform, including taking down assertions that vaccines cause autism or that it is safer for people to contract COVID-19 than to receive the vaccinations. The social network has increasingly changed its content policies over the past year as the pandemic has surged. In October 2020, the social network prohibited people and companies from purchasing advertising that included false or misleading information about vaccines.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [New York Times](#)

(U) Sacramento – Protesters Damage Mayor's Home, Staff Says

(U) Along with breaking lights, dinging up siding, busting a yard sculpture, and writing inflammatory words in chalk on his front walkway, protestors, according to the mayor's staff, shouted and chanted threatening phrases toward the mayor and other city leaders over a loudspeaker during the protest. The Sacramento Police Department said there were no arrests in connection to the damage at the mayor's home, but that it is still investigating the incident to which 80 officers and the department's helicopter were assigned to monitor.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [KCRA News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Tens-of-Thousands of Patient Files Leaked in US Hospital Cyber Attacks

(U) Washington – Patients and employees from 11 hospitals in the US have had their personal information exposed after hackers reportedly published tens-of-thousands of records online. The files come from Leon Medical Centers, which runs eight facilities in Florida and Nocona General Hospital, three are in Texas. The compromised information includes patients' names, addresses and birthdays, medical diagnoses, and letters to insurers. Also exposed was a folder containing background checks on hospital staff. The unnamed attack group is apparently well known to researchers and is usually in the business of double extortion ransomware, whereby data is stolen and posted to a darkweb blog in a bid to force payment.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [InfoSecurity Magazine](#)

(U) Florida – Cyber Attacker May Have Attempted to Poison Water Supply

(U) Oldsmar – Someone remotely accessed a computer for the city's water treatment system and briefly increased the amount of sodium hydroxide, also known as lye, by a factor of more than 100, the Pinellas County Sheriff said at a news conference Monday. The chemical is used in small amounts to control the acidity of water, but it is also a corrosive compound commonly found in household cleaning supplies such as liquid drain cleaners. The city's water supply was not affected. A supervisor working remotely saw the concentration being changed on his computer screen and immediately reverted it. City officials on Monday emphasized that several other safeguards are in place to prevent contaminated water from entering the water supply and said they have disabled the remote-access system used in the attack.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [Tampa Bay Times](#)

(U) Florida – Mexican Navy Helps DEA Seize 2.5-Tons of Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Pills

(U) Jacksonville – The Mexican Navy helped the Drug Enforcement Administration seize 2.5-tons of meth and 100,000 fentanyl pills that were on the way to the US. According to the Jacksonville District Office of the DEA, the narcotics, worth about \$90 million, came from the Sinaloa cartel in Mexico and were heading to the US by boat when the Mexican Navy, working with DEA, intercepted the boat. Two Mexican nationals are now facing federal charges of conspiracy to import tons of illegal narcotics into the US. Jacksonville DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Mike Dubet said that had the narcotics made their way into the US by way of the Gulf of California, they would have been delivered to various distribution hubs across the country, including Atlanta, where members of the Sinaloa Cartel are known to distribute large quantities of meth and fentanyl into Northeast Florida.

SOURCE: 9 February 2021, [News4](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Poland – Videogame Developer Hit by Cyber-Attack

(U) Warsaw – Polish video game company CD Projekt has revealed it has fallen victim to a cyber-attack in which some of its internal systems have been compromised and several devices in its network encrypted. The developer of the well-known video game Cyberpunk 2077 reported the incident in a tweet this morning, also publishing a ransom note left by the attackers. In the message, the hackers claimed to have accessed the source code for the games Cyberpunk 2077, Witcher 3, Gwent and an "unreleased version of Witcher 3" as well as "documents relating to accounting, administration, legal, HR, investor relations and more" They threatened to sell or leak this information online if "we will not come to an agreement." However, CD Projekt said it is refusing to negotiate with the attackers, adding that it is investigating the incident in collaboration with IT forensic specialists and has informed the relevant authorities of the breach.

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [InfoSecurity Magazine](#)

(U) United Kingdom – UK Lowers Terror Threat Level Following Decline in European Attacks

(U) London – Britain's terror threat level has been lowered after a drop in terrorist attacks in Europe. Home Secretary Priti Patel announced on Monday Britain now faces a "substantial" threat from terrorist attacks rather than "severe." It means a terrorist attack is still likely but not highly likely as before. Patel told lawmakers this was due to "the significant reduction in the momentum of attacks in Europe since those seen between September and November 2020." "Terrorism remains one of the most direct and immediate risks to our national security," she said. "'Substantial' continues to indicate a high level of threat and an attack on the UK is still likely."

SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [Security InfoWatch](#)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) United Kingdom – UK Sentences Youngest Far-Right Terrorist

(U) London – The UK's youngest far-right terror offender was sentenced on Monday to a two-year rehabilitation order after confessing to 12 terrorist offenses. The 16-year-old boy had been the leader of the UK branch of the outlawed neo-Nazi terrorist group Feuerkrieg Division and had expressed racist views online between 2018 and 2019. The boy had been operating from his grandmother's house in the county of Cornwall, southwest England and had collected right-wing material to distribute to potential recruits. One recruit was Paul Dunleavy, another teenager who was jailed last year for plotting a terrorist attack. One of the 12 offences that he committed included the downloading of a manual on how to make a bomb and the intention to carry out a genocide of all non-white people in the UK. SOURCE: 8 February 2021, [Andalou Agency](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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